

California MLPA Initiative
MLPA North Coast Study Region: Round 3 Evaluations
Staff Summary of Area and Habitats in NCRSG MPA Proposal
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Table 1. Summary of MPAs by Designation for NCRSG MPA Proposal

Type of MPA ^a	# of MPAs	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
State Marine Reserve (SMR)	6	51.17	5.0%
State Marine Recreational Managed Area (SMRMA)	3	1.03	0.1%
State Marine Park (SMP)	1	0.12	<0.1%
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	7	81.92	8.0%
All MPAs combined	17	134.24	13.1%

^a These are proposed marine protected area (MPA) designations, NOT levels of protection assigned by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT). SMRMA is not an MPA designation, but rather a marine managed area designation.

Table 2. Summary of MPAs by Level of Protection for NCRSG MPA Proposal

Level of Protection (LOP)	# of MPAs	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
Very High ^b	7	51.35	5.0%
High	0	0.00	0.0%
Moderate-High	1	9.52	0.9%
Moderate	0	0.00	0.0%
Moderate-low	2	13.82	1.3%
Low	7	59.56	5.8%
Total	17	134.24	13.1%

^b The "Very High" category includes MPAs with SMR designation, as well as SMRMA designations that do not propose any allowed uses.

Table 3. Individual MPAs in NCRSG MPA Proposal

MPA Name	Size ^c (mi ²)	Alongshore Span ^d (mi)	Depth Range ^e (ft)
Pyramid Point SMCA	14.02	2.9	0 - 124
Point St. George Reef Offshore SMCA	9.52	3.5	176 - 399
Reading Rock SMR	9.57	2.9	147 - 253
Reading Rock SMCA	11.84	2.9	0 - 165
Samoa SMCA	13.02	3.6	0 - 158
South Humboldt Bay SMRMA	0.79	N/A	Depth data not available
South Cape Mendocino SMR	9.07	1.4	0 - 277
Mattole Canyon SMR	9.76	3.5	82 - 1646
Sea Lion Gulch SMR	10.36	2.0	0 - 375
Big Flat SMCA	11.51	2.5	0 - 1110
Vizcaino SMCA	18.47	4.9	0 - 391
Ten Mile SMR	11.97	3.1	0 - 343
Ten Mile Beach SMCA	3.54	0.9	0 - 288
Ten Mile Estuary SMRMA	0.18	N/A	Depth data not available
Point Cabrillo SMR	0.44	0.9	0 - 40
Big River Estuary SMP	0.12	N/A	Depth data not available
Navarro River Estuary SMRMA	0.06	N/A	Depth data not available

^c Size is measured in square statute miles.

^d Alongshore span measured as direct line from one end of the MPA to the other, roughly paralleling the coastline. An alongshore span is not calculated for estuarine MPAs.

^e Comprehensive bathymetric data for all estuaries is not available. Though bathymetric data do exist in portions of some estuaries, depth ranges are not provided for estuarine MPAs for consistency in evaluations.

Table 4. Habitat Representation in NCRSG MPA Proposal

Habitat ^f	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
Intertidal										
Sandy or gravel beach*	2.55	1%	0.41	<1%	0.25	<1%	15.21	8%	18.42	10%
Rocky shores*	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%
Hardened shores*	11.69	7%	1.21	1%	0.77	<1%	4.83	3%	18.50	12%
Coastal marsh*	0.00	0%	4.41	5%	1.29	1%	0.00	0%	5.70	6%
Coastal marsh	0.00	0%	0.09	3%	0.02	1%	0.00	0%	0.11	3%
Tidal flats*	0.00	0%	0.36	1%	0.28	<1%	0.00	0%	0.64	1%

Habitat ^f	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
Seagrass beds										
Humboldt Eelgrass	0.00	0%	0.23	3%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.23	3%
Estuarine										
Estuary	0.00	0%	1.03	2%	0.12	<1%	0.00	0%	1.15	3%
Hard bottom										
0-30 meters proxy* ^g	2.09	4%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.90	4%	3.99	8%
0-30 meters	0.92	3%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.54	5%	2.47	8%
30-100 meters	6.92	21%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.48	1%	7.40	22%
100-200 meters	0.25	36%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.01	1%	0.26	37%
>200 meters	0.02	28%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.01	14%	0.03	42%
Soft bottom										
0-30 meters proxy* ^g	5.43	3%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	16.41	9%	21.84	12%
0-30 meters	4.61	2%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	27.56	9%	32.18	11%
30-100 meters	30.94	7%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	37.39	8%	68.34	15%
100-200 meters	3.32	5%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	6.89	11%	10.21	16%
>200 meters	1.61	21%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.59	8%	2.20	29%
Unknown										
0-30 meters	2.54	2%	1.03	1%	0.12	<1%	7.16	6%	10.85	8%
30-100 meters	0.01	<1%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.28	9%	0.29	9%
100-200 meters	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%
>200 meters	0.02	10%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.02	10%
Other										
Offshore rocks*	3.18	6%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	2.14	4%	5.32	10%
Canyon	1.51	20%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.67	9%	2.18	29%
Linear kelp*	3.10	6%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.75	3%	4.85	9%

^f Habitats are measured as an area (mi²) except for those with a * notation. Habitats with a * notation are expressed in linear units (mi).

^g A linear measurement of substrate in the 0-30m zone, called the 0-30m proxy line was developed to address the limited fine scale data for the nearshore habitat. The proxy line is drawn roughly parallel to shore at 12-15m depth and is divided into short segments and the estimated proportion of hard and soft bottom in the 0-30m zone is associated with each segment.